

THE NCCC

JUG



NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB

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Contest Analog Voice Keyer Part 1

By Bob Wolbert, N6IP

This article describes a contest voice keyer circuit using the ISD10xx family of analog voice recorder ICs. The basic circuit provides message recording, playback, and addressing. Enhancements include a T/R switch, a STOP function, a CQ loop timer, and "CT" interfacing. Part 2 will describe improving signal-to-noise ratio, better microphone input schemes, and low power (battery) operation. All circuitry shown has been completely debugged and is on-line at N6IP. It will be battle tested during CQP '91.

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THE BREEZE FROM LOUESE In Which Louese Gives Us Our Due

W6ISQ: OK, Louese, what do you want to tell your Miserable Minions (MM's) this month?

KA6ING: They are not MM's, they are nice people.

ISQ: You running for re-election 'er sumpin'?

ING: Well, not re-election, but maybe I should have a cross word for some of them!

ISQ: Ahhhh Ha! What are them MM's up to? Say the cross word.

ING: There are 49 of them who can't read, or at least they do not read the **JUG**.

ISQ: Methinks there be more than that as don't peruse the **JUG**. But how come you know exactly?

ING: There are 49 of 'em who have not yet paid their dues. They will know they have not paid because of the RED X on their mailing label. Now three months overdue.

ISQ: So if there is a RED X on the mailing label, they have not yet paid their dues which was due three months yore?

ING: That's what I just said. You got trouble hearing?

ISQ: Ahhhh....OK, don't be a 49er. Now, let's tell the MM's how to pay up and retain their membership in the world-famous NCCC, and continue to receive the world-famous **JUG**. Tell 'em.

ING: Dues are only \$24 for a whole year for regular members and only \$12 for associates and students. It's a bargain, you can't have supper as cheap.

ISQ: I guess the MM's can read that OK, but just in case, I'll repeat....\$24 for regular members for the entire year, or \$12 for associates of students.

ING: There you go again. I just said dues were \$24. And send the money to Honest Henry, KJ6LD, that's our own

(Breese con't page 2)

(Breese con't from page 1, col 2)

Henry Stewart, 6672 Elwood Rd., Sam Jose, CA 95120.

ISQ: OK, send your check or money order, or pennies, to KJ6LD. What else have you got for the MM's?

ING: I keep hearing an echo on the frequency. Oh well. We do want to thank all members who did renew and especially those who sent in a little extra contribution to help us climb out of the red inkwell which was sabotaging our budget.

ISQ: It was great of them to help out, especially those who committed to the \$100 matching funds. It put us over the top.

ING: We should meet all expenses now—IF—IF—those 49ers will only join up again and be part of the world's greatest... ekserter, ekserter.

ISQ: What else ya got for the MM's?

ING: I wonder how come more people could find the downstairs room in the Hewlett-Packard building last meeting, than could find a huge picnic in Coyote Point park.

ISQ: Sure do make you wonder sometimes don't it! But, that's the MM's for ya.

ING: I love 'em all but they need a lecture now and again. Oh, I do want to thank bright Steverino, N6ST, for obtaining the keys to the downstairs meeting room at Hewlett Packard stadium.

ISQ: Everybody missed you at the last meeting, especially at the Pizza Parlor. Bet Larry could of put away one a' them cheese two-footers with seven kinds of sausage in jig time.

ING: They tell me Ace did a fine job of controlling the MM's....ahhhh....the 28 sterling members who were present.

ISQ: Yeah, for a County Hunter, he done good.

ING: And I hear N7TV's comic routine was great too.

ISQ: His lecture was also excellent.

ING: It's good I invited him to be the lecturer at the next meeting October 18, at the Wagon Wheel, the one in Mountain View.

ISQ: Pray tell, what will N6TV's lecture be about at the October 18 meeting at the Wagon Wheel in Mountain View?

ING: I heard that echo again.

ISQ: I say, what subject, among the 3076 subjects that N6TV is an expert in, will he be discussing?

ING: *How To Be in The Top 10 in Your Neighborhood in CQWW*

ISQ: It's a weener.

ING: I'll see you all at the Wagon Wheel next time for N6TV's comedy hour. Don't

forget to tell 'em....DO NOT BE A 49er. And please, do send Honest Henry, KJ6LD, your 24 bucks today. Now don't bother me any more. I have to get back to 28375 to QRX for the ZA.

ISQ: I'll tell the MM's.

BULLETIN BOARD de W6ISQ

Tremendous success in eliminating RFI, TVI and Telephone interference using ferrite cubes is reported by N6TV and N6EK. N6TV requests that anyone wanting to purchase ferrite cubes for eliminating (hopefully) RFI and telephone interference, contact him. He will buy the cubes in units of 88 each, for the purchase price of \$80. He suggests it may take that many to clean up your neighborhood. Note: these ferrite units are half cubes, so it takes two of them to make your cube. The two halves are then taped together after wrapping the turns. Also available from Good Old Bob are larger cubes for RG8U type TV line. These are priced at \$3.50 each, but they are now out of stock. Call N6TV to order either cube.

Fe3O4 PROBLEMA. The amateur press notices all said to send your ZA1A QSLs to Box 1, Los Altos, or to the bureau via W6OAT. But I listen to Martti saying to QSL to W6OAT. Poor Rusty! He may have his water and electricity turned off before he can find and pay the bills buried amongst the cascade of QSLs pouring through his front door.

From N6EK's Award's Desk. Is your 5 Meg Award falling apart? On the older plaques, the engraved metal was attached to the plaque with double-sided sticky tape which tends to loosen with time. On the newest plaques, small brass screws are used for attachments. If you received an older style plaque and would like it upgraded, contact Jack at Alpine Awards in Concord (510) 671-2079. He said he would fix older plaques and mail them back to us for free. Mention the NCCC and let me know if there is any problem. de N6EK

Thanks to Ken, K6PU, for sending NCCC the attached OP-AID printed in this issue. This OP-AID will work for all of the NCCC area, and should be useful in the forthcoming CQWWs.

Ken can print these OP-AIDS for any location in the world, so he offers to make up one for individuals or groups going off on a CONTEXpedition. Call him for full details. Thank you Ken, for making this available for us all.

Contest Analog Voice Keyer, Part 1

By Bob Wolbert, N6IP

This article describes a contest voice keyer circuit using the ISD10xx family of analog voice recorder ICs. The basic circuit provides message recording, playback, and addressing. Enhancements include a T/R switch, a STOP function, a CQ loop timer, and "CT" interfacing. Part 2 will describe improving signal-to-noise ratio, better microphone input schemes, and low power (battery) operation. All circuitry shown has been completely debugged and is on-line at N6IP. It will be battle tested during CQP '91.

Analog vs. Digital Recording

Digital audio recording has been available for several years. Digital recording, used in CD players, takes audio, passes it through a low-pass anti-aliasing filter, samples it many times per second (44kHz for CDs), converts the sample into digital data, and stores it digitally. When played, the digital data is reconverted into analog and the rough edges are filtered. Digital recording tends to be memory intensive—a 60 minute capacity CD stores the equivalent of 600Mbyte of data. Digital voice keyers are commonly available; most use external memory. Recording quality ranges from poor to exquisite, depending on the sample rate (and available memory).

Analog audio recording differs from digital recording in that analog to digital and digital to analog conversions are unnecessary. Also gone is the high frequency clock, which can cause RFI. The analog recorder clock runs at about 8kHz, depending upon IC version. Like digital recording, the audio is sampled rather than continuously recorded, so anti-aliasing filtering is still necessary.

Both methods offer acceptable message length, fidelity, and flexibility for a contest voice keyer. The ISD devices, at the Amateur Radio club discount price of \$20, is the lower cost solution. As far as we are concerned, either system will make a workable keyer.

ISD Analog Recorders

The ISD10xx family of analog audio recorders consists of three devices, ISD1012, ISD1016, and ISD1020, with the last two digits denoting total message

time in seconds. The three are interchangeable in our application, trading fidelity for message time. The "high fidelity" ISD1012 provides 12 seconds of 4.7kHz bandwidth audio, the 1016 has 16 seconds of 3.4kHz bandwidth audio, and the 1020 gives 20 seconds of 2.7kHz bandwidth audio capacity. The three devices use the same pinout and identical external circuitry. They are non-volatile thus need no back-up battery to retain stored messages. Total recording time may be segmented into up to 160 different messages, with messages of variable length.

Keyer Circuit Configuration

The keyer circuit features four message memories and a STOP function. A latch keys the transmitter upon Message start switch closure until End-of-Message pulse (EOM) output. The transmitter is disabled during recording sessions. An interface is provided to allow computer control of the messages, and is compatible with "CT". A CQ loop with delay is controlled by a 555 timer, which is triggered by the EOM pulse. When the timer is activated, Message 1 will repeat with an adjustable 1 to 10 second delay. As drawn, the voice keyer is hard sectored, with each message lasting one-quarter of the total available recording time. The circuit may be custom re-sectored if you require differing message lengths or a different number of messages.

Contest Keyer Operation

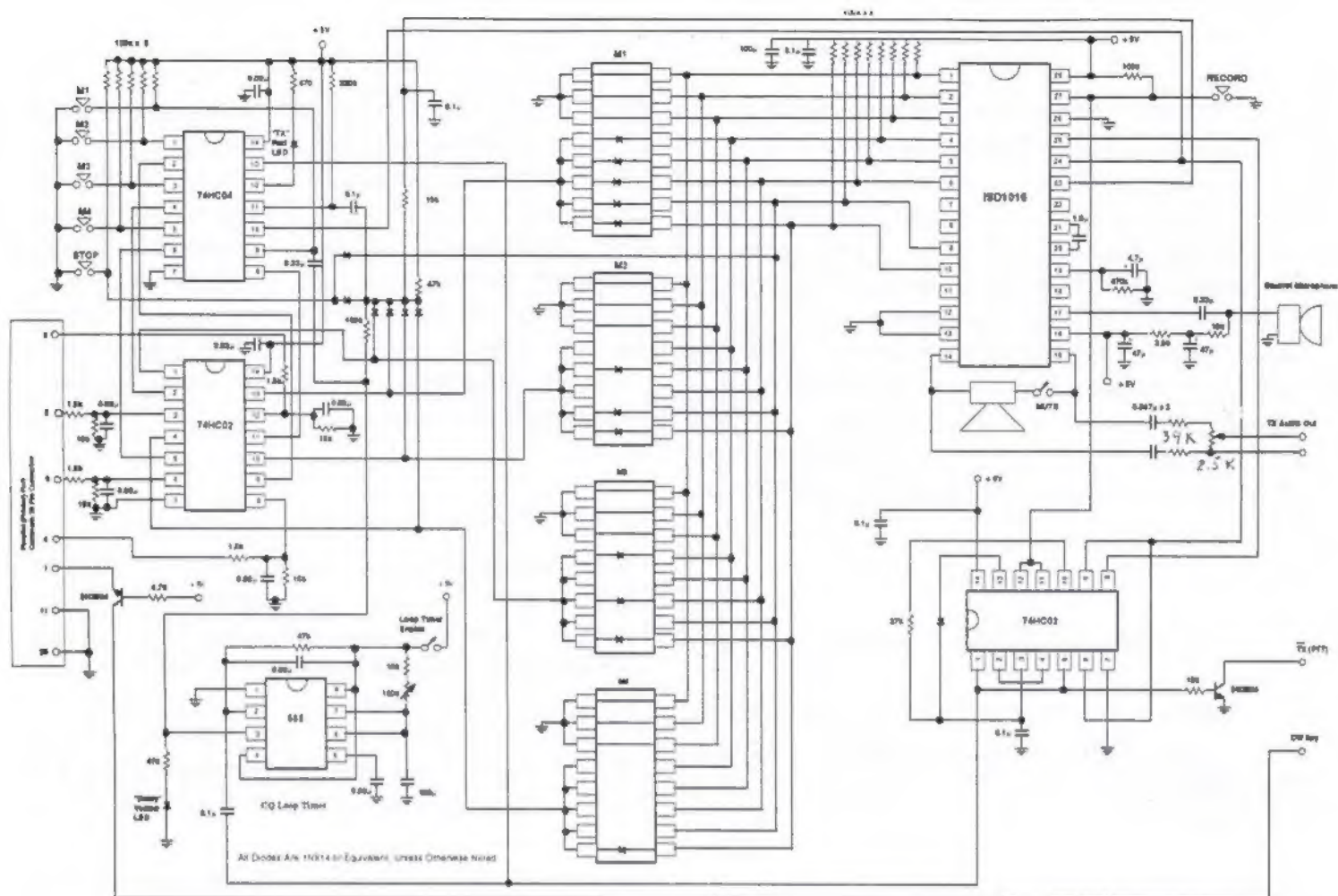
Recording

To record a message, apply power to the keyer. Press and hold RECORD, then press and hold the message switch (M1 or M2, etc.). Speak into the microphone and load your message, releasing the message switch when finished. Then release the RECORD switch. Repeat for the other three messages. STOP does not require loading.

Playback

To play a message, momentarily press the message button. The message should be audible from the speaker. A speaker cut-off switch lets you disable the speaker to hear the audio from the transmitter monitor.

Caveat: you must manually time your recording session! Once started, the IC will record until you turn it off by releasing the memory switch or when it runs out of memory. For example, if you re-record message 1,



Schematic N6IP contest Voice Keyer

Full Page Schematic Available from N6IP

talking for 10 seconds, message 2 will be erased. Pressing M2 will now give you the last portion of message 1, starting in mid-message. I recommend you record your messages in order and play each one back, plus the next (empty message), to ensure you have not exceeded the message boundaries. If necessary, you may re-arrange the diodes to change the partitioning. Yes, you can have one 15 second message and three 300msec messages (with an ISD1016) if you wish. See "Message Addressing" for details.

Construction Notes

RF & AF Noise

Since the keyer will be used in a high RF environment, the design must be RF-proof. This means the device must ignore RF fields and not generate any RF

noise itself. Fortunately, the ISD IC seems quiet and insusceptible even as an open board prototype.

Audio noise is another important consideration. Al, AG6D, reports that the internal AGC preamplifier is quite noisy. He replaced the preamp with an external op-amp stage. Part 2 will discuss a low-noise preamp with ground isolation, so the keyer may be used with the station microphone and still remain connected to Kenwood transceivers*. For now, noise control is implemented by careful layout. Pins 12 and 13 should be connected together, and this point used as a single point ground. Separate wires should run from the voltage regulator directly to Pin 28 (V_{CCD}) and to Pin 16 (V_{CCA}). AGC and audio coupling capacitors should mount close to the IC and have short leads.

*Kenwood rigs require an isolated shield from the microphone audio line and does not connect this shield to chassis ground (which is PTT ground).

Message Addressing

A diode matrix calls the starting address of each message. Positive logic is used, so the first address is 00000000. The last valid address is 10011111. By dividing the memory into four equal segments, we have:

Memory	A7	A6	A5	A4	A3	A2	A1	A0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
3	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
4	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
STOP	1	0	1	x	x	x	x	x

Since STOP is not a valid message address, the keyer halts. Diodes are used to pull the selected inputs low, one diode for each zero. Thus, message 1 uses eight diodes, message 2 uses six, etc. We do not need eight bits of resolution in this keyer, so we may delete diodes A0, A1, and A2, tying these address pins permanently low. In my prototype, I used 16 pin sockets with diodes installed in removable socket headers. The message 1 socket had all eight connections made so I could replace the diode header with a DIP switch for manually addressing any location for testing purposes. The header used wire instead of diodes for A0, A1, and A2 and the "cathode" side of the socket was permanently grounded for these three. Sockets for M2, M3, and M4 left the three connections open. The STOP address does not require a socket, and the diode is soldered in place.

CT Interface

The keyer has an interface for a parallel input compatible with "CT" and some other contest software. CT forces one bit momentarily high on the parallel port. This signal is received by one section of the 74HC02 Quad NOR gate, which starts the selected message. Input resistors provide some protection from spikes and noise and force the inputs low when the parallel port is disabled or unconnected. Function keys F1 through F4 start the corresponding message under "CT".

CW keying from the same computer parallel port is provided so no cable changes are necessary during mode swapping (for contests such as CQP, IARU, Field Day, etc., that allow both modes). Keying is positive polarity. For you "phone-onlies"—add the CW interface anyway. Just do it!

CQ Loop

The venerable 555 timer is used as an adjustable loop delay. When activated, a delay time from one to ten seconds, set by the 100kΩ pot, determines the pause time between CQs. Upon 555 time-out, Message 1 is played. At the EOM signal following message 1, the timer is retriggered. To answer someone, disable the timer with its switch and push STOP, if necessary.

Conclusion & Acknowledgments

This was a rushed project, with only one week from receiving parts to JUG deadline. The circuit has not yet been mounted in any sort of chassis; the schematic presented here has been tested but not optimized. It is offered so you may get an inexpensive voice keyer online in time for the 1991 contest season. Although some of the membership finds it easy to yak their way to a milliyun, us shy types need assistance. Hopefully, this keyer is that assistance. I wish to thank Al, AG6D, and Bob, N6TV, for their valuable input, and Joe Jarrett, K5FOG, applications engineer at ISD, for his guidance. Next time (next month?), I hope to present a more optimized, feature laden keyer.

Please feel free to dump any and all suggestions on me via packet or telephone (408) 258-1015 (Home)/(408) 245-2500 ext. 415 (days). Go gettum in CQWW!



ANALOG VOICE KEYER, Bob, N6IP, shows he remembers CW, by winning the Fanny keying event at the August picnische.
(Foto N3AHA.)

ACE'S SPACE

Quote of the month from our hard-working Veep ACE, N3AHA, "Make a meg for Olde CQP, and make a MILLI-YUN in CQWW." That's right folks, it's MILLI-YUN point time again and our intrepid Veep is thrashing for points. Pay attention to his instructions as follows:

Send all your CQP and CQWW summary sheets to N3AHA, either by mail or packet. Ace will tally scores for submission to authorities and then send the summary sheets to AD6E to tally for your individual Five Meg Award. No need to send summary sheets to both N3AHA and AD6E. Send to AHA only.

Ace says the Five Meg award chairman is getting lonely and is QRX for more applications. The Five Meg is the most coveted NCCC award available to Louese's MM's. But you have to score points to make it. Begin planning how you are going to score a Milli-Yun and add to your Five Meg total—all at the same time.

Ace flings kudos and all that jazz to TOPOPS :

1. N6TIB, highest club score ARRL DX phone, unassisted and Division leader.
2. NC7K, highest club score ARRL DX CW, unassisted
3. W1FEA, only west coast station in the top multi-op list.
4. NCCC finished eighth in medium category, SCCC ninth.
5. N6TV, highest ARRL DX CW score and Division leader.
6. W6BSY, highest ARRL DX phone, unassisted.
7. N3AHA, highest ARRL DX phone, assisted and California leader.
8. NCDXC, with joint NCCC member support, finished third in medium category, behind North Coast Contesters and Mad River Radio Club. SCCC was 16th.

(Ed note: NCDXC could have been second if all NCCC scores had been turned in for NCDXC.)

CONTESTS COMING UP

Oct 4-5	CAL QSO PARTY VK/ZL Oceania SSB
Oct 5-13	Wyoming QSO Roundup
Oct 12-13	PA QSO Party IL QSO Party
Oct 13	RSGB 21/28 SSB
Oct 19-20	Worked All Germany
Oct 20	RSGB 21 CW

Oct 26-27	CQWW DX SSB 10-10 CW
Nov 2-3	SS CW
Nov 9-10	WAEDC RTTY JA Int'l DX SSB OK DX CW/SSB
Nov 16-17	SS SSB
Nov 23-24	CQWW DX CW

TROSTEROSTER de W6ISQ



Henry's Honkings will give the official report of the BOD meeting. These are a few unofficial meanderings about the membership meeting, September 20 at Hewlett Packard on the hill in Palo Alto.

A matter of great concern to the club and to hard-working, Honest Henry, KJ6LD, our revered Treasurer, was that 49 members have not yet renewed their membership. This was also cause for alarm in high places as detailed in *Breeze From Louese*. If you have a RED X on your mailing label, you still owe your \$24 dues. Please restore the happy smile to Honest Henry's face...if you can find it through all the whiskers. We all thank you.

Some of you will remember the interesting talk at the DX club about an analog voice machine. Well, N6IP and AG6D each built one. AG6D left his home, but N6IP brought his custom-chassis model along for a demo. Way to go, Bob! An impressive job. Even sounded like him. What's more, in order to give JUG readers the scoop before contest time, he stayed up until wee hours to finish Part I of his analog adventures by press time. Hope you'll all be able to add one to your contest gear. Our hearty thanks, Bob.

Round table chatter gave everyone a chance to say where he/she would spend CQP weekend. We need a few extra counties. Everyone is going someplace, even home—except ACE, N3AHA. Seems Ace is forced to attend yet another wedding back east over CQP weekend. He must have been the most popular fella on campus because they all want Ace to come to their weddings. W6CF and I will forgive him if he mobiles through West Virginia and gives us eight or nine of the counties we still need.

Welcome to new member Jim, KB6JS from Sam Hosay. And welcome back to Bob, N6OXR (ex, WB6NPZ), and to "Node" Bob, KN6J, one of the original Young Turks who founded NCCC. They paid their dues and are now official. Thank you all. Now 49ers, rejoin the fold. Send your dues today!

(TrosterRoster con't on page 7)

(TranterRoster con't from page 6)

Mr. Robert's Rules, W6RGG, narrated a fine slide show of pictures taken by Bill, N6OP at the K6ZM Field Day picnische operation.

N6TV flashed up on his computer screen, an absolutely terrific demonstration of GEOCLOCK, a software program which displays either a mercator or polar projection, centered on your QTH, of daylight and darkness plus the gray line. The daylight-darkness areas move with time. A spectacular, eye-catching, and useful display. Perhaps N6TV would be willing to demonstrate this unique software for others. Ask him. Bob says the programs are available from Joseph R. Ahlgren, 2218 N. Tuckahoe, Arlington, VA 22205. Cost is \$30 for the standard Mercator map and another \$30 for the polar projection. Total, 60 bucks for both presentations. Include your latitude and longitude. If I ever get a "real" computer, as IBM Bob refers to a certain brand, I'm gonna git me one a' them!

For laughs-that-hit-home, ha ha, N6TV gave us his David Letterman-type, Ten Excuses for Not Making the Top 10 in CQWW in Your Neighborhood. (JUG had to have it-- see elsewhere in this tabloid). Bob then continued to amaze us with a demo of another new program. This one written for CQP by Ken, K1EA. He will be rewarded with a magnum of Napa Valley's best, specially selected by our own lil' ole winemaker, Bruce, W6OSP. What's more, the bottle will be computer-labelled by print-meister Bob, N6EK, with a personalized label of thanks.

Andy, AE6Y, then demonstrated his own CQP logging system which was also an amazing and excellent must-have for contestors. Both programs were available to anyone present who brought his own disc for transfer. If there is time before CQP, N6TV could probably supply both programs to those who missed the meeting and would like to have them.

HENRY'S HONKINGS

de KJ6LD, Sec/Treas.

The NCCC BOD meeting was held on Friday, September 20, at 6 PM, prior to the membership meeting. Ace, N3AHA, Jim, WA6SDM, and Henry, KJ6LD were present.

1. The next meeting will be held on October 18, at the Wagon Wheel in Mountain View: Gather for refreshments 6-6:30, eat 7-7:30.

2. Next meeting's program will be given by Bob N6TV and others. The subject will be how to do well in the CQWW contests.

NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

WAGON WHEEL, MOUNTAIN VIEW

GATHER AT 6 PM EAT AT 7 PM

PROGRAM: BOB WILSON, N6TV

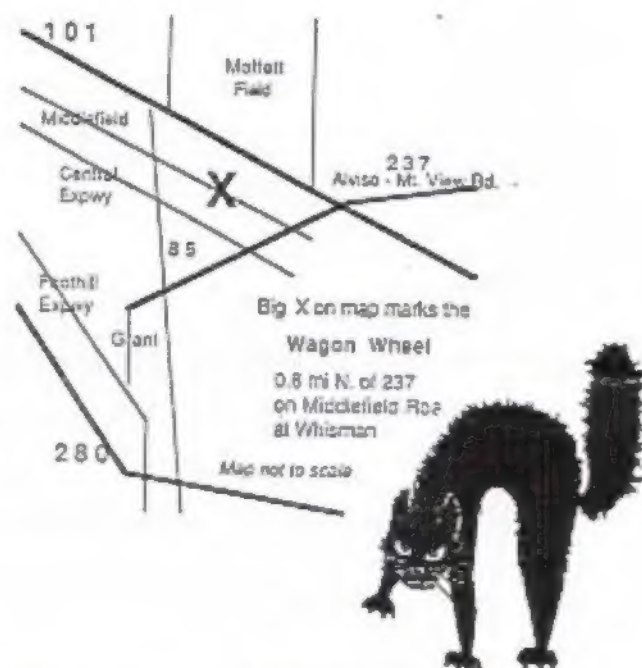
HOW TO BE TOP TEN IN CQWW

DINNER: CHICKEN, FISH, or STEAK

\$15.00

Including salad, dessert, tip, and tax

Map to Wagon Wheel in Mountain View



NCCC Treasurer's Report

July 1, 1991 through September 20, 1991

	BUDGET	TO DATE
Membership Dues	\$3,000.00	\$2,050.00
Donations		\$838.00
JUG and Roster Ads	\$670.00	\$0.00
JUG and Roster Publishing	(\$1,800.00)	(\$521.69)
CQP	(\$1,000.00)	(\$366.24)
Membership Awards	(\$1,000.00)	(\$126.11)
Visals Hospitality	(\$200.00)	\$0.00
Self-funding Events	\$0.00	(\$65.28)
Sponsored Awards	(\$150.00)	\$0.00
Contingency Fund	(\$200.00)	\$9.30
Total	(\$680.00)	\$1,817.90

Notes:

As of September 20, 1991, the balance in our Wells Fargo checking account is \$2394.36. (The repeater fund does not belong to the club; I will no longer include it in the Treasurer's report.)

Respectfully Submitted, Henry Stewart, Secretary/Treasurer, KJ6LD
8/26/91

HERE IS N6TV's LIST OF COUNTIES WHICH SHOULD BE ON THE AIR FOR CQP.
 Note: Bob still needs stations in three counties. Can you find a friendly mobile or a friendly operator in those counties to get on this weekend for CQP?

County	Station(s)
-mobile-	N6NKN, WN4KKN
Alameda	N6EK, K6XV
Alpine	KI6OS, W6TVP, N6AU
Amador	K6BPB, K6PU
Butte	N0DJJ
Calaveras	K6RK
Colusa	
Contra Costa	K6PJY, N6RO
Del Norte	K6HY, K6AAW
El Dorado	W6SUN
Fresno	N6GJI
Glenn	N0DJJ?
Humboldt	W6JTI
Imperial	AA6PC
Inyo	N6BT
Kern	N6BT
Kings	N6BT
Lake	W6OWQ
Lassen	K6JKC
Los Angeles	N6HC, W6UE(OTU)
Madera	KD6FW/KB6EEK, NB6L
Marin	K6LRN
Mariposa	AA6QY
Mendocino	
Merced	N6ZB/KS6H, KI6PR
Modoc	W6REC
Mono	W6TVP(lim.), N6AU
Monterey	KK6ZO
Napa	W6OSP, W6FSJ
Nevada	N6XI(lim.), WA6AUE

Orange	N4ARO/6(lim.)
Placer	W6RFF(lim.), W1FEA?, N6UUG
Plumas	KD6VM(lim.), KF7AM/6
Riverside	W6EEN, W6TKV, WA6FIT
Sacramento	W6GO(N6IG)
San Benito	KG6GF(m/s)
San Bernardino	WA6FGV(lim.), W6HAL, N6WIN
San Diego	K6XT(KI6ZH), N6BIS
San Francisco	N1EE
San Joaquin	W6FAH, KJ6DL, N6OP
San Luis Obispo	
San Mateo	W6OAT, W6ISQ
Santa Barbara	N6GC(lim.)
Santa Clara	N6TV, KJ6LD, WA6SDM
Santa Cruz	N6ST
Shasta	KC6YLE
Sierra	W6JEX, N6JM
Siskiyou	WA6OZZ(lim.)
Solano	K6HIH, N6WVF, WX6F, KJ6JF, W6ROY
Sonoma	WB2CHO, KD6GC
Stanislaus	KK6TE(lim.), WJ6O
Sutter	KI6CG
Tehama	N0DJJ?
Trinity	N6IFW(or Calaveras)
Tulare	W6IFC, N6BT
Tuolumne	N6AU, KI6PG, N6IP
Ventura	K6MP(lim.)
Yolo	N6YKL
Yuba	W6BSY

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
CONTEST CLUB**

**1991
CALIFORNIA
QSO PARTY**

SPECIAL AWARD
PRESENTED TO

**KEN WOLFF
K1EA**

FOR

SOFTWARE SUPPORT
ABOVE AND BEYOND
THE CALL OF DUTY

OCTOBER 1991

ЯНВАРЬ		ФЕВРАЛЬ		МАРТ	
Пн	7 14 21 28	Пн	4 11 18 25	Пн	4 11 18 25
Вт	1 8 15 22 29	Вт	5 12 19 26	Вт	5 12 19 26
Ср	2 9 16 23 30	Ср	6 13 20 27	Ср	6 13 20 27
Чт	3 10 17 24 31	Чт	7 14 21 28	Чт	7 14 21 28
Пт	4 11 18 25	Пт	1 8 15 22	Пт	1 8 15 22 29
Сб	5 12 19 26	Сб	2 9 16 23	Сб	2 9 16 23 30
Вс	6 13 20 27	Вс	3 10 17 24	Вс	3 10 17 24 31
АПРЕЛЬ		МАЙ		ИЮНЬ	
Пн	1 8 15 22 29	Пн	6 13 20 27	Пн	3 10 17 24
Вт	2 9 16 23 30	Вт	7 14 21 28	Вт	4 11 18 25
Ср	3 10 17 24 31	Ср	1 8 15 22 29	Ср	5 12 19 26
Чт	4 11 18 25	Чт	2 9 16 23 30	Чт	6 13 20 27
Пт	5 12 19 26	Пт	3 10 17 24 31	Пт	7 14 21 28
Сб	6 13 20 27	Сб	4 11 18 25	Сб	1 8 15 22 29
Вс	7 14 21 28	Вс	5 12 19 26	Вс	2 9 16 23 30
Кострома. Ипатьевский монастырь. Основан в XIV в.					
ИЮЛЬ		АВГУСТ		СЕНТЯБРЬ	
Пн	1 8 15 22 29	Пн	5 12 19 26	Пн	2 9 16 23 30
Вт	2 9 16 23 30	Вт	6 13 20 27	Вт	3 10 17 24
Ср	3 10 17 24 31	Ср	7 14 21 28	Ср	4 11 18 25
Чт	4 11 18 25	Чт	1 8 15 22 29	Чт	5 12 19 26
Пт	5 12 19 26	Пт	2 9 16 23 30	Пт	6 13 20 27
Сб	6 13 20 27	Сб	3 10 17 24 31	Сб	7 14 21 28
Вс	7 14 21 28	Вс	4 11 18 25	Вс	1 8 15 22 29
ОКТЯБРЬ		НОЯБРЬ		ДЕКАБРЬ	
Пн	7 14 21 28	Пн	4 11 18 25	Пн	2 9 16 23 30
Вт	1 8 15 22 29	Вт	5 12 19 26	Вт	3 10 17 24 31
Ср	2 9 16 23 30	Ср	6 13 20 27	Ср	4 11 18 25
Чт	3 10 17 24 31	Чт	7 14 21 28	Чт	5 12 19 26
Пт	4 11 18 25	Пт	1 8 15 22 29	Пт	6 13 20 27
Сб	5 12 19 26	Сб	2 9 16 23 30	Сб	7 14 21 28
Вс	6 13 20 27	Вс	3 10 17 24	Вс	1 8 15 22 29

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W6RQ wants you to have a handy
 wallet-size calendar of your very own.



September 1, 1991

Dear NCCC:

As you may know, I have run a survey in my September contest columns in CQ Magazine. In order to increase participation, I have enclosed a copy that I would like you to include in your next club newsletter. Another alternative would be to pass it out at an upcoming club meeting.

In any event, anything you can do would be greatly appreciated!

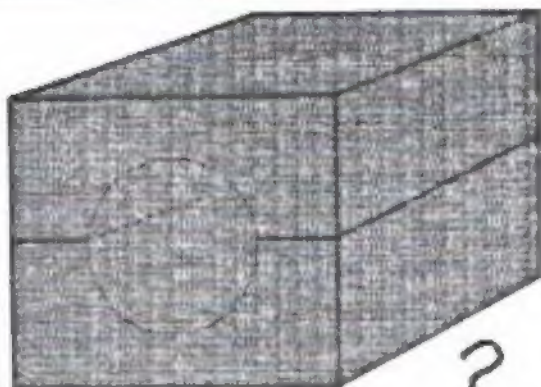
73's *John, K1AR*

(Signed) John, K1AR
John Dorr, K1AR
2 Baldwin Street
Windham, NH 03087
603-434-5661—home
508-967-1095—work
508-967-4505—FAX

Your editor adds:

Please copy John's Questionnaire and answer it. Do not dare to tear it out of a perfectly good JUG. Copy it! Here's a great chance to get your opinion to someone of stature who is working on ideas of interest to all. That will get you someplace. It's your chance to sound off. Don't never complain no more if you don't take advantage of this chance to speak. You won't get this opportunity to speak out in the JUG, the editor does not allow dissent. Give John a good input from W6-land.

Say you saw it in the JUG
See Questionnaire next page.



QUESTIONNAIRE FROM CAC MAN JOHN, K6GSS

Our Pacific Division Contest Advisory Committee person John, K6GSS, also would like some input from NCCC covering ideas about allowable operating time in contests. This is becoming an issue, as you know from articles in NCJ. The questions he poses may have to be voted on soon, but let's each of us pass along our thoughts. Don't complain if matters are not voted your way unless you have expressed your ideas. You're invited also to add thoughts on other contest topics as you wish.

N6TV GIVES TOP TEN EXCUSES FOR NOT MAKING TOP TEN

10. The dog ate the coax.
9. Neighbors complained about interference to "Big Time Wrestling"
8. Thought KG6GF was a new multiplier
7. Got a migraine listening to W6RGG
6. Smoked amplifier while attempting to compensate for feedline losses
5. Worked too many dupes
4. Worked too many dupes
3. Computer only saved every other QSO
2. Fell asleep after first five minutes
1. It was time to give someone else a chance



NCCC COMMANDERS: BOD Bob, N6TV; VP Ace, N3AHA; Sec/Treas. Henry, KJ6LD; Pres. Luene KA6ING. (Foto N3AHA)

Contesting Survey: Inside the Mind of Today's Contester

Your Callsign (optional): _____

Contesting Experience (years): _____

1. In a few words, what is the single most important issue facing contesting today (e.g., lack of new blood, ethics, etc.)?

2. Do you think the sport of contesting will continue to improve over time, or have we seen the best?

☐ YES ☐ NO

3. What is the age of the youngest and oldest contester that you personally know? (Approximate answer is acceptable.)

Youngest: _____ Oldest: _____

4. As you have grown older, what has changed about your ability to operate?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

5. Are experienced contesters doing anything about bringing more youth into contesting?

☐ YES ☐ NO

6. Is contesting an asset or a liability for amateur radio?

☐ Asset ☐ Liability

7. Has the integration of technology into contesting gone too far?

☐ YES ☐ NO

8. Do you feel the competitive nature of contesters is germane to other areas of life (e.g., career, other hobbies, relationships)?

☐ YES ☐ NO

9. In one sentence, what has been your most memorable contest experience (e.g., participating in the last multi-multi operation at W2PV)?

10. What other hobbies do you enjoy outside of contesting/amateur radio?

a. _____

b. _____

11. What percentage of your vacation/holiday time do you use for contesting and related activities (e.g., antenna work, DXpeditions, etc.)?

☐ less than 10%

☐ 25-50%

☐ greater than 90%

☐ 10-25%

☐ 50-90%

12. Do you use some form of computer support while operating?

☐ YES ☐ NO

13. Given the right set of circumstances (e.g., best station, access to good operators to learn from, QTH), can most anyone eventually win the Single Operator category in a major DX contest?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Comments: (use additional sheet if necessary)

Return survey to:

John Dorr, K1AR, 2 Baldwin Street, Windham, NH 03087 USA

Deadline: November 20, 1991

John Hultquist, K6GSS
188 Noe St.
Kihei, HI 96753

For those of you who don't know, I am the ARRL Contest Advisory Rep. for the Pacific Division. Last year everyone was trying to see how much they could spend on mail, (well over 100 letters exchanged) and this year I get about one letter a month of committee correspondence. Right at the top of the subjects of discussion is the length of contests. It seems alot (the vocal minority I hope) is being said about contests being too many hours in length. This is usually preceded by the particular writer saying something about his age. Anyway, I would like to get a straw vote from the NCCC about the length of major contests. Tell you what, lets include some minor ones too, ARRL DX, SS, FD, and any other ARRL contests NCCCs like. Are they too long, too short, or just right?

And then there is the plaque program, a true Pandora's box. Two years ago we had a volunteer offer a Plaque for a particular class in SS. Well, it still is not a reality due to some politics I fail to understand. At the same time, without involving the CAC, a top ten plaque program was started for the June VHF contest. Basically, the VHF program gives plaques to the top 10 nation wide in single-op, multi-op, and I believe QRP

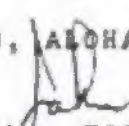
(I would have to re-read the announcements to be exact). This program does not recognize Division Winners, which I think it should. They are also looking for plaque sponsors as several of the VHF plaques are unsponsored (I think that is a hint as to the unsuccess of the VHF plaque program).

Well, enough for now, it is now Mon. the 23rd., and last evening I heard KI6CG and W6REC work 2A1A, but never heard 2A standby for the Pacific.

Another item on the local front. The Maui Amateur Radio Club sponsors the CQWW CW Single Op Oceania Plaque, and this year it was approved by only one vote. I'll have to stack the meeting for next years approval, hi.

Is there a NCCC HF net these days, and if so, time and freq. so I can checkin.

73, ALOHA, and KB


John K6GSS/KH6

New Member

Jim Moyer KV6S
6381 Wisteria Way
San Jose, CA 95129
H. 408 255-2266
W. 408 730-3444

Reinstatements

Bob Summers N6QXR
35825 Augustine Place
Fremont, CA 94536
H. 510 790-3274
W. 415 961-1473

Bob Artlgo KN6J
18360 Knuth Road.
Los Gatos, CA 95030
W. 415 961-1473

When Bob was a member,
his call was WB6NPZ

Bob was one of the founding
members of the club



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